

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please make the following amendment to the Abstract:

The invention relates to production of lysine, and provides several isolated polynucleotide molecules useful for the production of L-lysine. One such polynucleotide encodes an aspartate kinase (ask), an aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase (asd) and a dihydrodipicolinate reductase (~~dapB~~). Other polypeptides encode ask, asd, dihydrodipicolinate reductase ~~dapB~~, and a diaminopimelate dehydrogenase (ddh); ask, asd, dihydrodipicolinate reductase ~~dapB~~, ddh, and an ORF2 polypeptide ~~peptide~~; and ask, asd, ~~dapB~~ dihydrodipicolinate reductase, ddh, ORF2 and a diaminopimelate decarboxylase (~~lysA~~). The invention further provides methods of making and using the polynucleotides, and methods to increase the production of L-lysine. The invention further provides use of isolated polynucleotide molecules encoded by genes native to bacteria of the genus Corynebacterium. The invention further provides host cells bearing the isolated polynucleotide molecules of the invention. The invention further provides embodiments in which the host cell is a member of the genus Corynebacterium.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figure 10. These sheets, which include Figure 10, replace the drawing sheet for Figure 10 submitted in the application. In Figure 10, the term "SEQ ID NO: 16" has been included to reflect the sequence identification number of the sequence shown in Figure 10. No new matter is introduced by this amendment.